



Montgomery County Council

For Immediate Release

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***"Paths to the Present "* Looks at Montgomery County Slavery as part of Black History Month**

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Anchored from the Sandy Spring Slave Museum and African Art Gallery, this episode looks at the institution of slavery in Montgomery County. Slavery was a prominent part of life in this county until 1864, when enslaved persons in Maryland were finally emancipated by the state constitution.

This show includes interviews with historian Anthony Cohen and Tina Clarke, a descendent of Montgomery County slaves. Together they help paint a picture of what a slave's life might have been like here in our area.

In addition, author and County resident Elisa Carbone talks about her book of historical fiction, "Stealing Freedom." Set right here in Montgomery County, "Stealing Freedom" tells the true story of Ann Maria Weems, a young slave girl who lived both in Unity and Rockville with her owner, Charles Price. At age 13, Ann Maria had to decide whether to risk everything and take the Underground Railroad to Canada.

"Paths to the Present: Montgomery County Stories" is an on-going series highlighting local history, jointly produced by the Montgomery County Council and the Montgomery County Historical Society. It can be seen on County Cable Montgomery (channel 6 on Montgomery County Cable) starting Sunday, January 25, 2004 and running through Saturday, March 13, 2004.

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